

REMARKS

Claims 52-56, 58-69, 71, 72, 75 and 76 are currently pending. Claims 52 and 64 are independent.

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Thompson for courtesies extended during a telephonic interview on May 5, 2005. Pursuant to the interview, Applicant agreed to amend independent claims 52 and 64 to overcome the cited prior art references, subject to further search and consideration.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 55, 56, 58, 68, 69 and 71 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claims 55 and 68 have been amended to overcome the rejection of claims 55, 56, 58, 68, 69 and 71 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 52, 53, 55, 56 and 58-63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Palmer U.S. Patent No. 6,039,150 ("Palmer").

Claim 52 has been amended to recite that the horizontal plate is attached to an upper edge of the top end of the vertical support, such that the horizontal plate extends from and overhangs the upper edge of the vertical support toward the second end of the horizontal support. Palmer does not disclose such a horizontal plate, and therefore does not anticipate claims 52 and 64, as amended.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claim 52 (and claims 53, 55, 56 and 58-63, which depend therefrom) are not anticipated by Palmer.

Claims 64-66, 72, 75 and 76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Knauth U.S. Patent No. 6,003,631 (“Knauth”).

Claim 64 has been amended to recite that the horizontal plate is attached to an upper edge of the top end of the vertical support, such that the horizontal plate extends from and overhangs the upper edge of the vertical support toward the second end of the horizontal support. Knauth does not disclose such a horizontal plate, and therefore does not anticipate claim 64, as amended.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claim 64 (and claims 64-66, 72, 75 and 76, which depend therefrom) are not anticipated by Knauth.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 52-56, 58-69, 71, 72, 75 and 76 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-25 of commonly owned U.S. Patent No. 6,722,468.

Applicant hereby submits a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) to overcome the double patenting rejection.

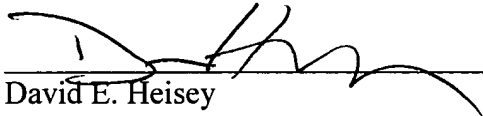
Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the application is currently in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to discuss any remaining issues. The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this and concurrent replies to charge payment (or credit any overpayment) to Deposit Account No. 50-0683 for any additional fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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